AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) A method for the detection of a target nucleic acid comprising the nucleic acid sequence of parvovirus B19 in a sample, comprising;

(a) providing a sample suspected to contain the target nucleic acid,

(b) providing a pair of primers comprising a first primer consisting of SEQ ID NO: 15 and a second primer consisting of SEQ ID NO: 17 ,

(c) amplifying the target nucleic acid,

(d) contacting the sample with a probe under conditions for binding the probe to the target nucleic acid, the probe consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11 and

(e) detecting the binding product between the target nucleic acid and the probe as an indication of the presence of the target nucleic ~~acid,~~ acid.

~~characterized in that;~~

~~the first primer consists of at least contiguous 12 nucleotides of a nucleic acid sequence selected from the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 15, and whereby the second primer consists of at least contiguous 12 nucleotides of a nucleic acid sequence selected from the complementary sequence of the nucleic acid sequences SEQ ID NO: 17, and/or,~~

~~the probe consists of at least 12 contiguous nucleotides of the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 11 or a complementary sequence thereof.~~

5. (original) The method according to claim 4 wherein the probe carries a label.

6. (original) A method according to claim 5 wherein an additional probe carrying a label is contacted with the sample in step d) so that a pair of probes consisting of a first and a second probe is contacted with the sample in step d).

7. (previously amended) The method according to claim 6
wherein said amplifying step c) comprises contacting the sample with the said pair of primers to produce an amplification product if the target nucleic acid is present in said sample,
wherein said step d) comprises contacting said sample with the pair of probes, wherein the members of said pair of probes hybridize to said amplification product within no more than five nucleotides of each other, wherein the first probe of said pair of probes is labeled with a donor fluorescent label and wherein the second probe of said pair of probes is labeled with a corresponding acceptor fluorescent label;
and detecting the binding product between the target nucleic acid and the pair of probes in step e) by detecting the presence or absence of fluorescence resonance energy transfer between said donor fluorescent label of said first probe and said acceptor fluorescent label of said second probe, wherein the presence of fluorescence resonance energy transfer is indicative of the presence of the target nucleic acid in the sample, and wherein the absence of fluorescence resonance energy transfer is indicative of the absence of the target nucleic acid in the sample.

8. (previously amended) The method according to claim 4 wherein the probe carries a first label and a second label.

9. (previously amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the target nucleic in step c) is amplified with a template-dependent DNA polymerase.

10. (previously amended) The method according to claim 9, whereby the binding product between the target nucleic acid and the probe in step (e) is detected by the quantity of the first label or the second label that is released from the probe hybridized to the target nucleic acid by exonuclease hydrolysis by the template-dependent DNA polymerase.

11-14. (cancelled)

15. (previously amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the primer and/ or the probe comprise a modified nucleotide or a non-nucleotide compound.

16. (previously amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein other target nucleic acids are detected in the same reaction.

17-24. (cancelled)